

Appl. No. 10/727,447
Amdt. dated February 13, 2006
Reply to Office action of November 29, 2005

Remarks

Claim 16 stands objected to because of the informality of using the term "aircraft" instead of the term --aircrafts-- in the preamble. The Examiner suggested that the term "aircraft" be changed to --aircrafts--. Claim 16 is currently amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion.

Claims 1-11, 13, and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. In particular regarding claims 1 and 11, the Examiner has deemed the phrase "capable of" as being vague and indefinite because the limitations following the phrase does not constitute positive limitations in any patentable sense but only the 'ability' to do so. Claim 1 is currently amended to construct a positive limitation by replacing the vague phrase "capable of loitering" with the positive limiting phrase "to loiter". Similarly, claim 11 is currently amended to construct a positive limitation by replacing the vague phrase "capable of rerouting" with the positive limiting phrase "to reroute".

Claim 15 stands objected to as being dependent upon the canceled claim 12. Claim 15 is currently amended to depend upon independent claim 1.

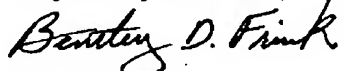
The Examiner states that claims 1-11, 13, and 14 contain allowable subject matter but stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Since the base claims 1 and 11 have been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejections it is respectfully submitted that claims

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1-11, 13, and 14 are now in condition for allowance. Moreover, the Examiner states that claims 16 and 17 are allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendment and for the above reasons, it is now believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. If any issues remain outstanding the Examiner is invited to call the applicant at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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